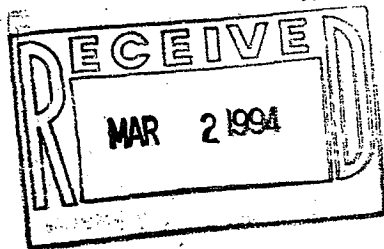


February 22, 1994



**Medical School**  
Department of Pharmacology  
George M. Stancel, Ph.D.  
Professor and Chairman

Dr. Harmon C. McAllister  
The Council for Tobacco Research  
900 Third Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Dr. McAllister:

I am currently finalizing plans for the 1994 Gordon Conference on Reproductive Tract Biology. This is a major ongoing meeting which focuses on both male and female reproductive tracts from an integrated, interdisciplinary perspective. As such we discuss the field as a continuum ranging from the developmental biology of the reproductive tract - through normal physiological functioning - and alterations in function seen in various pathological conditions such as infertility and reproductive tract cancers such as uterine and cervical in the female and prostate in the male. In addition, we make a special effort to address topics of special timeliness each year - this year for example we have scheduled a session on HIV transmission which will address aspects of transmission related to both male and female reproductive systems. Another key feature is that the meeting brings together senior and junior participants from many institutions.

I am writing to ask if The Council for Tobacco Research would be able to support this meeting. I have submitted major grant proposals, and I expect that the topics and quality of speakers will ensure good reviews. However, it is unrealistic to expect the full level of requested support in the current funding climate. In particular, any funding cuts will mean that the conference cannot provide travel support for younger scientists, postdoctorals, and graduate students, as well as the speakers. This would be a sad situation, since the Gordon Conferences have traditionally fostered the type of interactions between junior and senior scientists that are so important to every discipline.

UT-Houston Medical School • 6431 Fannin • P.O. Box 20708 • Houston, Texas 77225

(713) 792-5550 FAX (713) 792-5911 • e-mail: gstancel@farmrl.med.uth.tmc.edu

Located in the Texas Medical Center